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potato stocks



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POTATO STOCKS DOWN 5 PERCENT

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the fall production areas totaled 99.1 million cwt. on March 1, 1976, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This was 4.9 million cwt. (5 percent) less than the previous record of 104.1 million on hand March 1, 1975, but 22 percent above the March 1 stocks of 1974.

For the eight eastern States on March 1, 1976, stocks totaled 14.9 million cwt., down 29 percent from the 21.1 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks at 12.0 million cwt. compare with 17.1 million on hand a year earlier.

In the eight central States, stocks totaled 13.7 million cwt., 23 percent less than the 18.0 million cwt. on hand for the comparable date a year earlier. Combined stocks in North Dakota and Minnesota totaled 9.1 million cwt., down 3.6 million or 28 percent from a year ago.

Stocks in the eight western States on March 1, 1976, totaled 70.5 million cwt., 8 percent or 5.5 million cwt. above the 65.0 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Most of the increased stocks were in Oregon (up 2.4 million) and Washington (up 2.2 million).

Disappearance from the 1975 fall crop to March 1, 1976, totaled 168.7 million cwt. (excluding Nevada), down 7 percent from the 181.4 million cwt. moved during the comparable period a year earlier.

The accumulated quantity of potatoes processed in the seven major States to March 1, 1976 from the 1975 crop totaled 59.5 million cwt., a decline of 13 percent from the 68.2 million cwt. processed during the comparable period a year earlier.

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. The remaining 10 percent is lost primarily through shrinkage and waste.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CROPS OF 1965-75 IN THE FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	:	:	TOTAL STOCKS					
			PRODUCTION	:	FOLLOWING YEAR			
					DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1
	:	:	1,000 CWT					
1965	:	:	216,749	147,780	124,170	98,670	74,905	
1966	:	:	228,442	153,550	128,050	103,630	79,632	
1967	:	:	231,656	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,405	
1968	:	:	221,906	152,810	130,350	104,995	81,940	
1969	:	:	239,460	162,800	138,140	111,510	87,620	
1970	:	:	253,525	175,145	150,030	122,830	96,780	
1971 <u>1/</u>	:	:	266,686	176,340	151,400	124,370	98,480	
1972	:	:	248,841	158,440	134,320	107,165	83,305	<u>2/58,185</u>
1973	:	:	253,866	157,802	133,585	106,600	81,150	55,865
1974 <u>3/</u>	:	:	288,674	187,715	162,900	133,245	104,051	75,865
1975	:	:	271,942	180,930	152,920	125,360	99,105	

1/ BEGINNING WITH 1971 LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR NEW YORK-LONG ISLAND, WISCONSIN AND WASHINGTON HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.

2/ APRIL 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.

3/ REVISED AUGUST 1975 POT 6(75).

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, 1/ SEVEN STATES, 1974 AND 1975 CROPS 2/

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	ENTIRE SEASON
					(000) CWT		
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO, OREG	1974-75	19,742	23,803	28,063	32,820	38,344	58,168
	1975-76	15,030	19,890	24,965	30,265		
MAINE	1974-75	2,830	3,757	5,126	6,109	7,116	9,304
	1975-76	1,735	2,350	2,945	3,635		
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1974-75	15,269	16,815	19,181	21,712	24,472	32,295
	1975-76	11,796	14,780	18,060	21,190		
OTHER STATES <u>3/</u>	1974-75	3,833	4,990	6,355	7,539	8,687	11,322
	1975-76	2,504	3,100	3,710	4,365		
TOTAL	1974-75	41,674	49,365	58,725	68,180	78,619	111,089
	1975-76	31,065	40,120	49,680	59,455		

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE OR MICHIGAN.

2/ 1974-75 REVISED. 3/ MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, AND NORTH DAKOTA.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL
POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS,
AND LOCAL DEALERS ON MARCH 1, 1975
AND MARCH 1, 1976

STATE	CROP OF 1974		CROP OF 1975	
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MAR 1 1975	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS MAR 1 1976
	1,000 CWT			
CALIF	6,417	1,800	6,164	1,950
COLO	8,840	3,400	8,613	2,900
CONN	598	<u>1/</u>	552	<u>1/</u>
IDAHO	81,195	40,000	75,090	41,000
IND	1,166	<u>1/</u>	1,500	95
MAINE	36,400	17,100	26,840	12,000
MASS	800	<u>1/</u>	718	<u>1/</u>
MICH	8,330	1,800	6,670	1,500
MINN	15,300	5,300	9,690	3,700
MONT	1,750	1,400	1,748	1,410
NEBR	1,152	375	1,127	480
N H	144	<u>1/</u>	92	<u>1/</u>
N Y - L I	6,750	600	6,058	700
- UPSTATE	6,968	1,600	5,760	990
N DAK	22,950	7,400	17,600	5,400
OHIO	2,090	250	1,914	170
OREG	17,482	4,920	22,779	7,300
PA	7,360	1,568	6,815	1,035
R I	1,034	<u>1/</u>	987	<u>1/</u>
S DAK	371	<u>140</u>	598	<u>100</u>
UTAH	1,481	240	1,508	420
VT	220	<u>1/</u>	212	<u>1/</u>
WASH	41,160	12,800	48,300	15,000
WIS	14,000	2,600	14,850	2,300
WYO	1,528	430	1,632	485
OTH STS		328		170
24 STATE TOTAL	285,486	104,051	267,817	99,105
NEV	3,188	<u>2/</u>	4,125	<u>2/</u>
TOTAL 25 FALL STATES	288,674	104,051	271,942	99,105

1/ STOCKS INCLUDED IN "OTHER STATES".

2/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY
Minnesota and North Dakota (Red River Valley)

Quality information contained in this report is based on a potato stocks quality survey conducted by the Statistical Reporting Service in the Red River Valley. There were 211 samples selected on a random basis and placed in storage at the time of harvest. Reports will continue to be issued through April for the 1975-76 storage season indicating accumulated average grade and weight loss for potato samples removed from storage.

Samples recovered before March 1, 1976 for all varieties continue to average a greater proportion of U.S. No. 1 potatoes than a year ago. The percent of Red, White and Russet varieties grading U.S. No. 1 (including B's) was 85, 76, and 67 percent respectively and compares with 74, 73, and 44 percent for the same period a year ago. U.S. No. 1 grade for Whites showed the largest decline in grade compared with last month. This is partially due to a few storage bins being dumped and classified as 100 percent culls. The decline in U.S. No. 1 grade for Reds and Russets since time of harvest is indicated at 6 and 16 percent respectively and 9 percent for White varieties. This compared with declines of 17 percent for Reds, 0 for whites, and 25 percent for Russets during the same period a year earlier.

The percent graded as culls remains less than a year ago for all varieties. The percent culls for March 1, 1976 and March 1, 1975 are as follows: Reds 7, 12; Whites 15, 17; and Russets 19, 49. Total weight loss while in storage was slightly higher than a year ago for Reds, but less for Whites and Russets.

Averages for all potatoes shipped during the season (final) are shown for the 1974 crop. Thus, comparisons relating to change in grade from March 1 to final can be made for the 1974 crop. In interpreting current survey indications, consideration should be given to further changes that may occur in average grade and weight loss from March 1 to the end of season.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1975-76
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES SHIPPED: 1/

VARIETAL TYPE	NO. 1 INCLUDING B'S		NO. 2		CULLS		NO. 1 B'S	WEIGHT LOSS
	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AFTER STORAGE 2/	
	P E R C E N T							
	SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE MARCH 1, 1976							
RED	91	85	5	8	4	7	10	4
WHITE	85	76	7	9	8	15	9	3
RUSSET	83	67	12	14	5	19	12	4
	SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE MARCH 1, 1975							
RED	91	74	5	14	4	12	2	4
WHITE	73	73	14	10	13	17	1	5
RUSSET	69	44	18	7	13	49	4	7
	ALL SAMPLES 1974-75 STORAGE SEASON-FINAL							
RED	88	69	7	12	5	19	3/	4
WHITE	76	70	12	10	12	20	3/	5
RUSSET	70	61	18	11	12	28	9	6

1/ MATCHED SAMPLES, QUALITY AT HARVEST COMPARED WITH QUALITY AFTER STORAGE.

2/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U. S. NO 1 GRADE BUT DID NOT MEET MINIMUM SIZE STANDARDS FOR THE AREA; RED AND WHITE VARIETIES 1 1/2 - 2 1/4 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND RUSSET VARIETIES UNDER 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER OR WEIGHT LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.

3/ NOT AVAILABLE.